

*a<sup>2</sup> cont.* concentration of assimilable phosphorus in the fermentation broth is less than 0.15% w/v. --

In the Claims:

Cancel Claims 1-14.

Add Claims 15-34 as follows:

*a<sup>1</sup>*  
-- ~~16~~ 15. A process for production of clavulanic acid comprising fermentation of a clavulanic acid-producing species of *Streptomyces* in a fermentation broth containing sources of assimilable carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus, wherein the starting concentration of assimilable nitrogen in the fermentation broth is greater than 5%, and wherein the concentration of assimilable phosphorus in the fermentation broth is less than 0.15% w/v during a growth phase of the fermentation and is allowed to decrease after cessation of the growth phase.

*Refiled 26*  
16 17. A process as claimed in Claim ~~15~~ 16, wherein the concentration of assimilable phosphorus is allowed to decrease after a fermentation time of 40 hours.

18 17. A process as claimed in Claim ~~16~~ 17, wherein no assimilable phosphorus is added after a fermentation time of 40 hours.

19 18. A process as claimed in Claim ~~16~~ 17 wherein the concentration of assimilable phosphorus up to a fermentation time of 40 hours is 0.0015% to 0.15% w/v.

*61*  
cont'd

~~20~~ 19. A process as claimed in Claim ~~18~~<sup>19</sup>, wherein no assimilable phosphorus is added after a fermentation time of 40 hours.

~~21~~ 20. A process as claimed in Claim ~~18~~<sup>19</sup> wherein the concentration of assimilable phosphorus is 0.002% to 0.05% w/v.

~~22~~ 21. A process as claimed in Claim ~~20~~<sup>21</sup>, wherein no assimilable phosphorus is added after a fermentation time of 40 hours.

*Recd 26 Oct 1997*  
22. A process as claimed in Claim ~~15~~<sup>16</sup>, wherein the source of assimilable phosphorus is sodium phosphate, potassium phosphate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate, potassium dihydrogen phosphate, disodium hydrogen phosphate, dipotassium hydrogen phosphate, or a mixture thereof.

~~24~~ 23. A process as claimed in Claim ~~15~~<sup>16</sup>, wherein ammonia is not the sole source of assimilable nitrogen.

~~25~~ 24. A process as claimed in Claim ~~23~~<sup>24</sup>, wherein the source of assimilable nitrogen does not include ammonia.

~~26~~ 25. A process as claimed in Claim ~~23~~<sup>24</sup>, wherein the source of assimilable nitrogen includes soy bean flour.

~~27~~ 26. A process as claimed in Claim ~~24~~<sup>25</sup>, wherein the source of assimilable nitrogen includes soy bean flour.

~~28~~ 27. A process as claimed in Claim ~~23~~<sup>24</sup>, wherein the source of assimilable nitrogen includes ammonium sulphate.